Board of Fisheries which had endorsed the draft National Fisheries Policy statement.

The objectives, as laid down in the draft National Fisheries Policy are :

(i) Conservation of aquatic resources and genetic diversity;

(ii) enhancing production of fish and the productivity of fishermen, fish farmers and fishing industry;

(iii) generating employment for the coastal and rural poor;

(iv) improving the socio-economic conditions of the traditional fishermen and fish farmers; and

(v) augmenting export of fish and marine products taking into account the need for responsible and sustainable fisheries.

The draft Policy provides for development of marine fisheries, inland fisheries, aquaculture, infrastructure including marketing facilities, fisheries cooperatives, manpower research and training, extension, credit facilities and insurance cover over the remaining period of the Eighth Five Year Plan and during the Ninth Five Year Plan.

(d) The fish production from the marine sector in the country has increased from 25.75 lakh tonnes in 1992-93 to 27.07 lakh tonnes in 1995-96. The contribution from the deep sea sector out of this is only about 30,000 tonnes and the remaining production is from the traditional and small-scale mechanised sector. There is, thus, no adverse impact of deep-sea fishing on the traditional fishermen of the coastal areas.

[Translation]

Infrastructural Facilities in Border Areas

2520. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to provide the infrastructural facilities in the border areas of the country including along Nepal and China;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of criteria fixed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c). Border Area Development Programme was started in the Seventh Plan with the objective of balanced development of sensitive areas in the Western Region of the country, through provision of infrastructure facilities and promotion of a sense of security among the local population. The programme has been continued during the Eighth Plan (1992-97) with extended coverage to the Eastern States which have international border with Bangladesh. Area specific schemes which are designed to take care of problems typical to the border areas are only taken up under this programme. These are drawn up keeping in view the factors such as remoteness, accessibility, perception of threat from across the border, problems like smuggling, infiltration, subversion etc. and inadequacies relating to provision of essential needs. Individual schemes located in each state is approved by a Screening Committee at the State level.

Dacoity in Train

2521. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any complaint/FIR was lodged by passengers of Train No. 4055, Brahmputra Express regarding dacoity in that train on October 9, 1996;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of cash and valuables looted by the dacoits alongwith the number of persons injured in the incident;

(d) the reasons for not providing the First Aid immediately to the injured passengers;

(e) the compensation provided to the affected passengers;

(f) whether the FIR in this regard was lodged after ten hours of the incident, and

(g) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (g). The registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crime in the trains is the responsibility of the Government Railway Police (G.R.P.) which functions under the control of respective State Governments/UT Administrations. Information relating to train-wise crimes, FIRs lodged at local levels, etc. is not maintained by the Central Government.

[Translation]

Regional Offices of CPCB

2522. SHRI LALIT ORAON : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to bring about structural changes in the Central Pollution Control Board to make the Environment Protection Scheme more effective;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to open more regional offices of the Board;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the names of places notified as "Air Pollution Control Areas" under Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 during the last three years alongwith the views of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) No, Sir. Structural changes are not proposed in the Central Pollution Control Board.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The Air Pollution Control Areas in the respective States are notified by the respective State Governments after consultation with their State Pollution Control Boards. In respect of the Union Territories the Central Government notifies Air Pollution Control Areas in consultation with the Central Pollution Control Board. The Central Government has notified the whole of Union Territory of Delhi, Chandigarh, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Pondicherry as Air Pollution Control Area. The Central Government has not notified any new Air Pollution Control Area in last three years.

[English]

Encroachment on Forest Land

2523. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received demands from various organisations to regularise the encroachment of Adivasis on forest land; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) Representations have been received from time to time from various fora for regularisation of encroachments over forest land.

(b) Detailed guidelines have been issued by this Ministry on 18.9.90 regarding regularisation of encroachments taken place over forest land. The proposals received from the various State Governments, in this regard, are examined in accordance with the guidelines mentioned above and provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. So far, a total of 16 proposals from 8 State/U.T. Governments have been received under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for regularisation of encroachments over forest land. Out of these, 5 proposals have been approved, 2 approved in principle, 8 are pending with the State Governments for essential details and 1 proposal has been rejected. Approval has been issued in respect of the States of Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh and Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

River Valley Projects in Sikkim

2524. SHRI BHIM PRASAD DAHAL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the amount given by the Central Government for the River Valley Projects in Sikkim during the last three years;

(b) whether annual inspection has been conducted to find out the proper utilisation of funds by the Government; and

(c) if so, the findings thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) Ministry of Environment and Forests has not released any funds for the River Valley projects in Sikkim.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

[Translation]

Production of Cotton

2525. SHRI O P JINDAL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether many State Governments are soliciting help of the foreign countries to raise the cotton yield;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the corrective steps propose to be taken by the Government for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) There is no information available with the Ministry of Agriculture regarding State Governments soliciting help of the foreign countries to raise the cotton yield.

(b) and (c). Question does not arise.

[English]

Livestock Training Institute

2526. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1451 on July 23, 1996 and state :

(a) whether the Government have taken a decision on the proposal submitted by the Government of Kerala for sanctioning of grants for the development of Livestock Training Institute at Mattupatti;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;